

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, April 26, 2012

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

**Please note the minutes are a brief summary and
not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.**

Larry Gasco, Chairman, Presiding

I. Call to Order – Larry Gasco

- The meeting was called to order by Larry Gasco
- Chair asked for a moment of silence in memory Dr. Lester Breslow, Dean Emeritus of UCLA School of Public Health. Chairman Gasco and Commissioner Lubin both spoke about Dr. Breslow personally and his career.
- Roll Call by Canetana Hurd, Commission Staff
Attendance recorded as follows:
Absent excused: Greg Thompson, Carlos Sosa, Hayward McNeill, and Phillip Chen
- Approval of Minutes – Larry Gasco
March 2012 minutes were approved with revisions. Commissioner DeBose requested the minutes reflect the dialogue and action item between both he and Dr. Shaner.
MSC - Huffman/DeBose

II. Chairman's Report – Larry Gasco

- **Executive Committee Report** – Commissioner Huffman summarized topics discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on April 12, 2012:
 1. Nominations Committee – Commissioner Caballero reported the number nominations received.
 2. Survey Results – Both polls surveyed resulted in “yes” votes to change the full meeting time and reschedule Profiles of Hope awards program date.
- **MHC/SAAC Chairs Report** – Chairman Gasco gave a summary of the MHC/SAAC meeting held April 10, 2012. The consultant continues to work with each SAAC redraft their charter, duties, and responsibilities. Discussions continued to revisit plans to organize a Legislative Breakfast to connect with elected officials.

Kyla Buckingham from LETS (Let's Erase The Stigma) Educational Foundation was invited. LETS continues to mobile high school students to combat stigma. Ms. Buckingham discussed plans for the 2nd Annual Youth Summit. This year's goal is have twice as many students attend the summit from all walks of life.

- **Finalize Survey Results**

ACTION ITEM – Thirteenth Annual Profiles of Hope Awards Program – move to the month of October 2012

ACTION ITEM – Change full monthly meeting time to 11am -1:30 pm effective May 24, 2012.

- **CALMHBC** – Both the California Association of Local Mental Health Boards and Commissions (CALMHBC) quarterly meeting and the California Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) Regional training was held in Los Angeles April 18-21, 2012. Commissioners Baron, Huffman, Gasco, DeBose, and McNeill attended the activities. Chair asked Commissioners to share their thoughts about the events.

Commissioner Baron:

- a) Met up with long time acquaintance and former Mental Health Commissioner Carla Jacobs.
- b) Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas was in attendance to welcome the Planning Council to Los Angeles. Mr. Baron supports Supervisor's statement that mentally ill clients need better care and better placements.

Commissioner DeBose:

- a) Commended the efforts of the AB 109 program and how the coalition of LA County agencies is working together on a common cause.
- b) Encouraged fellow Commissioners to attend CALMHBC meetings to share and connect with other boards and commissions in the southern region.

Commissioner Huffman:

- a) CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) for law enforcement was a review of the training model offered to first responders in psychiatric emergencies.
- b) Would like the CMHPC to fully engage LA County on the next visit to LA for the CALMHBC meeting.
- c) Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' welcome statement to treat homeless people with respect.
- d) Supports the Commission's new role of oversight and responsibility for MHSA funding. Our Commission must get off their "hot cross buns" and demand MHSA funding is used for the mental health needs in Los Angeles County.

Commissioner Gasco:

- a) Attended the Skid Row tour included in the CALMHBC meeting itinerary while visiting Los Angeles. Mr. Gasco was impressed by the number of housing units available to homeless people.
- b) In support of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' statement that AB109 prisoners should be treated not as criminals but as clients.
- c) Supported Judge Manley's presentation offering recovery and rehabilitation to help prisoners rather than locking them up.

- **Nominations Committee Update** – Commissioner Caballero reported the number of nominations received from Commissioners so far, additional forms were available to turn in.

Chairman Gasco introduced Dr. James Barger, Medical Director, and Wayne Sugita, Deputy Director both from Public Health's Alcohol and Drug Programs Administration.

ACTION – Chairman requested that staff list Alcohol and Drug on the agenda to report/update the Commission monthly.

III. **Presentation – MHSA Annual Plan Update**

Dr. Debbie Innes-Gomberg, District Chief, MHSA Implementation and Outcomes Division

Dr. Innes-Gomberg opened with an introduction and discussed the responsibilities as overseer of MHSA Implementation and Outcomes Division. The division is responsible for preparing the MHSA annual update. The Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5847, Subdivision (b) requires yearly updates to the County's approved MHSA plans. Dr. Innes-Gomberg discussed the purpose of the update and overall structure of the implementation process. The components include: the progress of implementing MHSA programs; a mechanism for County to change previous plans; report MHSA programs for fiscal year 2010/11; notify programs being eliminated, consolidated or restored; and coordinate a public hearing for the Commission to approve the update. Los Angeles County tends to focus on program outcomes. The outcome structure is a format agreed upon by all counties recommended by the California Mental Health Director's Association.

Due to time limitations Dr. Innes-Gomberg moved the discussion to several slides covering clients served in urgent care centers, full service partnerships, underrepresented populations, and wellness centers.

Dr. Robin Kay discussed budget issues that impact fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13. A prudent reserve fund was created to address urgent needs associated with MHSA elements and initial commitments. This fiscal year DMH wants to use \$18 million to cover a shortfall identified in the CSS (Community Services and Supports) plan. This will be the last year for several years that county will be able to withdraw funds from the prudent reserve.

The next two fiscal years DMH wants to use \$30 million to expand urgent care centers and IMD step-down beds. The expansion will decompress psychiatric emergency rooms, and expand services for TAY (transitional age youth). TAY services were looked by services areas. Many of these services were not included in the original plan and never implemented. With Probation integration only an intermediate level of care is necessary to avoid detention. The data used in the annual update will enhance services for all served.

IV. **DMH Report - Dr. Rod Shaner, Medical Director**

Dr. Shaner reported the following:

- DMH has been working with the board to implement school base health services to cover all areas.
- AB 109 – Staff have been placed at all hubs (Probation) to see clients. Mental health screening is required so treatment and screening will increase.
- Continue to enroll clients in Healthy Way LA. Over 200 staff has been trained in primary care facilities for integration of health and mental health.
- Continue to work with pharmacies to better inform them who mental health clients are and identify medication providers.

Legislative Update – Susan Rajlal, DMH Legislative Analyst

Ms. Rajlal submitted the following report:

While this time of year is always busy, it is extremely busy due to the reorganization of the state department of mental health, the state/county realignment proposal and triples the usual number of bills. In addition to the bills related to the large state issues, there are also a number of bills related to preparation for health care reform.

- **Important Pending Dates**
May 14 – Governor's May Revise for Budget
June 1- Last day to pass bills out of the house of origin
June 30 – Budget Deadline
- **Critical Issues**
Creation of the superstructure and allocation bases – Perhaps the most critical of all of the issues is the language in the trailer bills related to realignment allocations, protections or lack thereof for the counties against increasing liabilities and how the base and growth will be calculated and allocated. Funding in the Governor's January budget for EPSDT was \$70 million short statewide. After much discussion with the legislature and administration, we are waiting to see if the May Revise will contain adequate funding for EPSDT and managed care. It currently appears that the growth allocation will be weighted towards social services.

- **CTF cut** - Since the 2007 closure of state hospital programs for children, children with the most serious mental health problems are placed at Community Treatment Facilities (CTF). There are currently 3 in California and 2, Starview and Vista, are located in LA County. CTF placement is paid for by a combination of funding but the mental health portion has been paid by an allocation from the state to the county mental health departments for payment for this program. The Governor's current proposal eliminates funding for this important service. CTF facilities say they may not remain in business if this funding is not paid. Without this treatment resource, there would be no appropriate community placement for these children and would lead to overcrowding on acute psychiatric units and possible out of state placement. LA County has 54 children placed in local CTFs.
- **Important Legislation to follow**
 - Trailer Bills** Not yet released
 - AB154 Beall** Extends parity in mental health treatment in California based on DSMIV diagnosis
 - SB1136 Steinberg** Clarifies roles of various oversight agencies for MHSA including OAC and DHCS and Ca Planning Council as well as local Mental Health Commission and BOS; sets forth some plans for allocation process, plan guidelines, etc.
 - AB1907 Lowenthal** Extends the process currently used by CDCR in state prisons for involuntary administration of psychotropic medications to inmates to local county jails
 - AB1569 Allen** Extends the sunset date for Laura's Law until 1/1/2019
 - AB2134 Chesbro** Laura's Law bill that sets forth some programs to be used for AOT programs
 - SB 1220 Desaulnier** Creates a \$75. filing fee for each instrument in a real estate purchase; fee is dedicated funding stream for support of low income housing.

V. Commissioners' Reports

Jerry Lubin – The City is pursuing its proposals to bar shared housing from low resident housing. Mr. Lubin asked that Commissioners continue to support its efforts by requesting legislative support.

Barry Perrou – Stepping In conference was well attended with over 680 people registered. DMH staff was excellent.

Victoria Sofro – The goal was accomplished and the celebration was a success. The Connections for Life Conference received a total of 475 registered attendees.

Frank Baron – Eight hundred guests signed to attend an event sponsored by NAMI Westside.

Delores Huffman – Housing slots are being filled thanks to MHSA funding.

Herman DeBose – Thanked speakers and DMH EMT staff for delivering clarification to the questions discussed earlier. He asked to staff to update the Commission brochure to include his name.

ACTION – Assure that Commission resources are updated prior to distributing to the public.

VI. **Community and SAAC Reports**

LACCC (Los Angeles County Client Coalition) – Pam Inaba

LACCC is having a Voter Registration Drive

SAAC 6 – Dorothy Banks

SAAC completed the new membership application, and discussed the draft version of the guidelines for operation for all SAACs. Thanks to DMH for the efforts toward the membership restructure process. SAAC meetings will have Spanish translation from July – December 2012 continuously.

VII. **Public Comments –**

William Legre –Bacup's 25th anniversary party is May 9, 2012. Discussed forced treatment issues.

Florencia Lopez – Presentation de la nueva mesa direction de la colieion Latina de salud mentat del condado de LA.

Archie Souder – Housing for inmates who are released from prison and jails. Mental health needs.

Sawako Nitao – Announced SAAC 5 meeting is every 4th Tuesday of the month from 5-7 pm. We have a guest speaker every month.

Phyllis Coto – SAAC 4 has begun dialogue on how peer support can be utilized to extend services to clients at wellness centers or mental health clinics who wish to be more independent and familiar in the community.

VIII. **Meeting adjournment/Next Meeting information**

Thursday, May 24, 2012

11 am – 1:30

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration – Room 739

500 W. Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Minutes prepared by Canetana Hurd